

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 6, and 14-18, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) A shear for mounting to an all-terrain vehicle comprising:

a frame for connecting to a support structure of the all-terrain vehicle, the frame comprising:

a first frame member comprising a single non-pivoting stanchion for connecting to the all-terrain vehicle; and

a second frame member comprising a single metal tube pivotally connected to the first frame member, the second frame member being transverse to the first frame member and being pivotal only in the horizontal direction;

a shear attached to the second frame member; and

a hydraulic system attached to the shear for actuating said shear, the hydraulic system being mounted to the all-terrain vehicle.

2.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hydraulic system comprises:

a power source separate than that which powers the all-terrain vehicle;

a hydraulic pump connected to the power source; and,

a control system for controlling the hydraulic system.

3.(Previously Presented) A vegetation cutting apparatus for connection to an all-terrain vehicle, the apparatus comprising:

a frame for mounting to the all-terrain vehicle, the frame comprising;

a first frame member comprising a single stanchion for connecting to the all-terrain vehicle;

a second frame member attached to the first frame member, the second frame member extending forward relative to the all-terrain vehicle;

a shear comprising a first shear blade member having a proximal end and distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end; and,

a second shear blade member having a proximal end and a distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end, the second shear blade member being movable relative to the first shear blade member to cut an object placed between the respective blades of the first and second shear blade members;

wherein the first blade member and the second blade member are pivotally connected to the second frame member about a common pivot point; and

wherein the first blade member is connected to a means for actuating by a first linking member, the first linking member being pivotally fastened to the converse end of the blade end of the first blade member and pivotally connected to a means for actuating; and wherein the second blade member is connected to the means for actuating by a second linking member, the second linking member being pivotally fastened to the converse end of the blade end of the second blade member and pivotally connected the means for actuating.

- 4.(Previously Presented)** The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the means for actuating comprises:
- a first hydraulic cylinder having a first end attached to the first linking member and the second linking member, and a second end attached to the second frame member;
- and,
- a hydraulic system connected to the first hydraulic cylinder.

5.**(Original)** The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the hydraulic system comprises:

a power source separate than that which powers the all-terrain vehicle;

a hydraulic pump connected to the power source; and,

a control system for controlling the hydraulic system.

6.**(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the control system comprises a control valve to actuate the first hydraulic cylinder, wherein the control system is mounted proximal to a seat of the [[ATV]] all-terrain vehicle.

7.**(Original)** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first frame member and second frame member are connected by a supporting member.

8.**(Original)** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the supporting member comprises a second hydraulic cylinder having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end of the second hydraulic cylinder attaches to the first frame member and the distal end of the second hydraulic cylinder attaches to the second frame member, and wherein the second hydraulic cylinder connects to the hydraulic system.

9.**(Canceled)**

10.**(Canceled)**

11.**(Canceled)**

12.**(Original)** The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first frame member pivotally connects to the second frame member.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first frame member is attached to a front grill of the all-terrain vehicle with a first linking brace and a second linking brace, the first linking brace and second linking brace each having a proximal and distal end, wherein the proximal end of the first linking brace is fastened to the first frame member and the distal end of the first linking brace is fastened to the front grill, and wherein the proximal end of the second linking brace is fastened to the first frame member and the distal end of the second linking brace is fastened to the front grill.

14. **(Currently Amended)** An all terrain vehicle containing a shear system, the shear system comprising:
~~an all terrain vehicle, the all terrain vehicle comprising a body with a front grill connected to the body;~~
~~a frame mounted to the all terrain vehicle, the frame comprising:~~
~~a stanchion connected to the front grill of the all-terrain vehicle;~~
~~a beam transversely attached to the stanchion all-terrain vehicle, the beam extending from forward relative to the all-terrain vehicle; and~~
~~a hydraulically activated shear attached to the beam, the shear comprising: a means for cutting connected to a hydraulic cylinder;~~
~~a first shear blade member having proximal end and distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end;~~
~~a second shear blade member having a proximal end and a distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end, the second shear blade member being movable relative to the first shear blade member to cut an object placed between respective blades of the first and second shear blade members;~~
a first linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the first blade member;

a second linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the second blade member;
the first and second linking members pivotally connected about a common pivot point; and
wherein the means for cutting is adjacent a forward portion of the beam, and the shear is connected ~~solely~~ to the beam and not directly connected to the all terrain vehicle.

15.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 and further comprising:

a support member connected between the ~~stanchion~~ all-terrain vehicle and the beam.

16.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the support member is a first hydraulic cylinder.

17.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 and further comprising:

~~a clamping mechanism which secures the frame to the all terrain vehicle, the clamping mechanism comprising a first plate and a second plate, each plate containing a plurality of apertures,~~

~~wherein the first plate is mounted between a first side of the front grill and the stanchion, the first plate secured to the stanchion, and the second plate is mounted to a second side of the front grill,~~

~~wherein the plates are secured to the grill with a plurality of fasteners through the plurality of apertures~~

a hydraulic system attached to the shear, the hydraulic system comprising a power source separate than that which powers the all-terrain vehicle.

18.(Currently Amended) The system of claim [[14]] 17 wherein the means for cutting of the shear further comprises further comprising:

~~a first shear blade member having proximal end and distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end;~~
~~a second shear blade member having a proximal end and a distal end, with a blade located adjacent the distal end, the second shear blade member being movable relative to the first shear blade member to cut an object placed between respective blades of the first and second shear blade members;~~
~~a first linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the first blade member;~~
~~a second linking member having a first end pivotally fastened to the proximal end of the second blade member;~~
~~the first and second linking members pivotally connected about a common pivot point; and~~
~~wherein the a hydraulic cylinder [[is]] in communication with a hydraulic system, [[and]]~~
~~wherein a first end of the hydraulic cylinder is attached to the beam, and a second end of the hydraulic cylinder is attached to the first and second linking members at the common pivot point.~~

19.(Canceled)